

EASB Policy Document

DRUG CONTROL POLICY

1. The Drug Control Policy is the responsibility of the Drug Control Committee ("the Committee") of the Association acting under the Board's authority and control.
2. In accordance with Sports Council guidelines random drug testing procedures may be conducted at any ranking and non-ranking tournament throughout the season.
3. Selection of members for testing will generally be by way of an independently supervised random draw conducted at a time when the names of members to be tested will be unknown to those who conduct the draw. In addition the Committee reserve the right to authorise the taking of a test if the circumstances appear to require it.
4. Members will be notified by the Referee or the Tournament Director at the end of a match during a Tournament that they have been selected and that they are required for drug testing purposes. Any member so notified must give a urine sample at the conclusion of his match under the supervision of and in the manner required by a nominated representative of the Committee.
5. Members who are required to give a test will be requested to give a sufficient urine sample (usually not less than 100ml) which will be clearly labelled and divided into two samples for the purposes of analysis.
6. At the time of giving the sample members will be required to disclose whether they have taken any medications within the preceding 72 hours and any substances then disclosed will be noted.
7. The two samples of urine will be delivered to a laboratory approved by the Committee for analysis. Initially only one sample will be tested. If that analysis is positive in respect of any controlled drug or drug prohibited by the IOC Medical Commission then this fact will be reported by the laboratory to the Association. The Association will then notify the member in writing of the fact of the positive analysis but will inform the member that disciplinary procedures will not be invoked unless and until the second sample is also confirmed to have a positive result. The member may be present at the breaking of the seal on the second sample and also be present at the analysis of the second sample. In special circumstances an alternative laboratory may be chosen for carrying out analysis of the second sample, subject to the approval of the Association. The breaking of the seal and the analysis will take place twenty one days after the member or his representative receives notification of the result of the first sample.
8. The member will also be informed of his right to nominate, subject to the approval of the Association, an alternative laboratory where the analysis of the second sample may be carried out provided that the Association's nominated representative is entitled to be present and that the analysis takes place twenty one days after notification in writing of these facts to the member or his representatives. The result of the second sample analysis will be regarded for the purposes of this policy as final and binding on the member and the Association.
9. Substances which are controlled drugs within the meaning of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and Regulations made thereunder and substances prohibited by the IOC Medical Commission are also prohibited by the Association and may not be used by members except in the strict circumstances described below.
10. Medical Exemption (Therapeutic Use): The relevant consent must be obtained in advance of any Tournament beginning. Applications for consent must be made to the nominated Association representative. Any consent so granted may be subject to a time limit so that it cannot be assumed that one consent will apply for an entire season. In cases of emergency, e.g. illness after a tournament begins, any prescription must be notified to the Tournament Director who will in turn notify the nominated Association representative. These provisions will apply equally to emergency applications.

11. Consent will only be granted on the basis of a proper medical diagnosis and a qualified Medical Practitioner's prescription. The member applying for consent agrees that he will undergo an independent medical examination if this is required by the Committee. A member asking for consent agrees that his General Practitioner or other medical advisor can reveal, if requested to do so, any confidential medical information relevant to the application for consent.
12. The relevant classes of prohibited substances are Stimulants, Narcotics, Anabolic Steroids, Beta-Blockers and Diuretics. The Association maintains a current list of permitted substances produced by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and made available on the EASB website. A member may have a copy of that list on request.
13. If any member is found on a positive analysis of the first and second urine samples to have consumed, or who admits to the use of a controlled drug, or a drug prohibited by the IOC Medical Commission, or who without reasonable cause refuses to undergo a urine test when required to do so in pursuance of these Rules, he will render himself liable to disciplinary action unless he has had the prior consent of the Committee to the use of the drug in question.
14. If both the first and second samples of urine are found on analysis to be positive in relation to a controlled drug, or a drug prohibited by the IOC Medical Commission, or if a member admits to the use of such drug or refuses without reasonable cause to undergo a urine test when required to do so, pursuant to this Policy the matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee who may, at its sole discretion, by a notice in writing to the member, or his appointed representative forthwith suspend the member from all or any association tournaments pending the appointment and completion of any disciplinary proceedings which are to be heard as soon as practicable.
15. At such proceedings the penalties that may be imposed include:-
 - disqualification from the Tournament at which the positive finding was made with forfeiture of any title honours or awards won at that Tournament;
 - the forfeiture by way of fine of any prize (whether in cash or kind) won at that Tournament;
 - the forfeiture of any ranking or other points awarded as a result of his performance in that Tournament;
 - an order that the member pay the Association's cost of the investigation and of the disciplinary hearing.
 - an unlimited ban from further competitions organised by the Association.
 - suspension or withdrawal of Membership and associated rights.
16. Any member who commits a second breach of these Rules will render himself liable at any subsequent disciplinary proceedings and in addition to any penalties set out in paragraph 15 to a life-time ban from all tournaments promoted or sanctioned by the Association.
17. In exercising any discretion regarding penalties and/or sanctions, the Disciplinary Committee shall have regard to the following matters:-
 - The age, experience and previous general disciplinary record of the member.
 - The nature of the prohibited drug found on analysis to be present.
 - The circumstances in which the drug came to be present or taken without the appropriate consent.
18. Under its general powers the Board reserves the right to alter or amend these Rules to Members on the advice of the Committee.